

# **Long-Term Care Planning Committee**

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## **Minutes of June 14, 2011 Meeting**

**Members Present:** David Guttchen, Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Jennifer Glick, Department of Mental Health and Addictions Services (DMHAS); Dennis King, Department of Transportation (DOT); Fran Messina, Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD); Siobhan Morgan, Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Donna Ortelle, Department of Public Health (DPH); Amy Porter, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS).

**Others Present:** Dawn Lambert, Director, Money Follows the Person; Barbara Parks Wolf, OPM.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

David Guttchen called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Mr. Guttchen requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 7, 2010 Planning Committee meeting. A motion was presented, seconded and passed unanimously by the Committee members.

### **Updates**

#### ***2011 Legislative Session***

Barbara Parks Wolf provided an overview of the long-term care related bills passed into law in the 2011 legislative session. There were eight public acts that address long-term care issues, with most of the changes related to long-term care occurring in the budget and the budget implementer bills (see handout).

Amy Porter provided additional information on the consolidation of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, the Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, and the Board of Education Services to the Blind. The consolidation will become effective July 1<sup>st</sup> and the new Bureau of Rehabilitative Services will be in the Department of Social Services for administrative purposes only.

Nancy Schaefer described SB 1065 which proposed to increase the penalty for assaulting an elderly, blind, disabled, pregnant, or mentally retarded person when the victim is age 60 or older and the perpetrator is an employee of a health care facility or home health care agency. The bill did not pass; however, if it did it would have been the first of its kind in the country.

## ***Long-Term Care Plan Status Report***

David Guttchen talked briefly about the annual Status Report that tracks the progress made in meeting the recommendations of the Long-Term Care Plan (see handout). This is the second Status Report for the 2010 Long-Term Care Plan. Plan members were invited to provide any missing information and a final version will be sent out to the Planning Committee in July.

## **Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments**

Julie Evans Starr, co-chair of the Long Term Care Advisory Council, announced that the Connecticut Elder Action Network is sponsoring a forum on Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> to provide a wrap-up of long-term care legislation during the 2011 session. The Long-Term Care Advisory Council has been meeting once a month. Bills of particular interest during the legislative session were the Connecticut Home Care Program cost share, personal care assistant benefits, the 1915(i) Medicaid state plan option and the ‘retaliation’ bill. Although a number of bills supported by the Advisory Council did not pass, this was a strong year for legislator education.

## **Presentation – Money Follows the Person Rebalance Initiative**

Dawn Lambert, Director of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Initiative, provided an update and status of the MFP expansion. Significant progress has been made with the initiative and the benchmarks have increased:

- The budget has grown from \$56 million to \$400 million
- The target number of individuals to be transitioned has grown from 700 to 5200
- Field staff will grow from 30 to 68 individuals
- As of last September a total of 249 individuals had transitioned from an institution to the community. This number has grown to 606 individuals transitioned.

New initiatives:

- A Statewide conference on a new ‘informed risk’ protocol developed in conjunction with MFP is being held on June 27, 2011.
- MFP is developing a Right-Sizing strategic plan (see SB 6618, sections 547 and 548). A one day planning session will be held the week of July 11, 2011. The plan will guide future decisions regarding supply of institutional and community long-term care services sufficient to meet estimated demand.

Ms. Wolf asked what were the major reasons an individual who had transitioned to the community would return to an institutional setting. Dawn explained that it was usually due to issues about the management of physical health issues. Jennifer Glick added that lifestyle issues such as smoking, obesity, and diabetes management also play a part, making a case for more prevention education.

Mr. Guttchen asked about the proportion of state and federal funding for staff. Central office staff is 100 percent federally funded and field staff were 50 percent federal and 50 percent state funded.

### **Meeting Schedule for 2011**

Mr. Guttchen invited Planning Committee members to suggest topics for presentation at the next meeting in September.

Tues., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

Tues., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

### **Other Business**

No new business was raised. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 pm.